



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: First, Second, and Third Tuesday of each month. Location of meeting is specified below.
Teleconference Only - No Physical Location

**Regular Meeting
January 12, 2021**

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chair Kreitz.

Supervisors Present: Corless, Duggan, Gardner, Kreitz, and Peters (all attended via teleconference).

Supervisors Absent: None.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors stream most of their meetings live on the internet and archives them afterward. To search for a meeting from June 2, 2015 forward, please go to the following link: <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/meetings>.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Corless.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. Mono County's 2020 Community Spirit Award

Departments: Board of Supervisors

(Supervisor Corless) - The inaugural Community Spirit Award celebrates the people who took initiative to do something beneficial for their community in the most difficult times. The Mountain View Fire caused unprecedented devastation and loss in Walker and the Antelope Valley. In the aftermath of the Mountain View Fire, a group of community members quickly organized and found ways to help their neighbors and friends who had lost everything, and created opportunities for well-meaning donors to contribute to the fire recovery.

Supervisor Corless, as outgoing 2020 Board Chair, requests that the Board of Supervisors recognize this incredible group of community members with

the first-ever Mono County Community Spirit Award. As we start 2021 with hope and resiliency, let's create a new tradition of honoring people in our county who exemplify community spirit.

Action: Approve resolution designating the Mountain View Fire Volunteers the recipients of Mono County's 2020 Community Spirit Award.

Corless motion; Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-14

Supervisor Corless:

- Introduced item

Supervisor Peters:

- Read proclamation
- Shared stories from fire and volunteer work

Public Comment:

- Jennifer
- Colonel Daniel Wittnam
- Annie
- Tracey Arnold

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Extension of agreement for donation center out of the Antelope Valley Community Center. Thanked Joe Blanchard and Jason Canger for help revising terms of agreement.
- Budget development with Janet Dutcher and Megan Mahaffey
- Assistant CAO update

4. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Recognized outgoing Assistant County Counsel Jason Canger. Shared projects Jason has been involved with during his time with Mono County.

Kathy Peterson, Social Services Director:

- Update on public assistance programs
- Funding still available through Mammoth Lakes Housing for rental assistance
- New employee, Amber Rassler

Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff:

- Spoke at Mountain View Fire meeting about ways to communicate with law enforcement; Text-to-911
- Given recent national events and potential for protests and possible violence, Sheriff Braun shared that there are no threats in Mono County. Continuing to work with law enforcement partners to be prepared should anything happen in the coming week.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

A. Board Minutes - December 1, 2020

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approval of the Board Minutes from the Special Meeting on December 1, 2020.

Action: Approve the Board Minutes from the Special Meeting on December 1, 2020.

Corless motion; Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-15

B. Board Minutes - December 8, 2020

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approval of the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 8, 2020.

Action: Approve the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 8, 2020.

Corless motion; Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-16

C. Monthly Treasury Transaction Report

Departments: Finance

Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 11/30/2020.

Action: Approve the Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 11/30/2020.

Corless motion; Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-17

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Direction may be given to staff regarding, and/or the Board may discuss, any item of correspondence listed on the agenda.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

A. Notice of Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Board Workshop

Notice from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Board Workshop on the January 13, 2021 meeting agenda.

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

(Robert C. Lawton, CAO, Bryan Wheeler, Public Health Director and Dr. Tom Boo, Local Health Officer) - Update on Countywide response and planning related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including reports from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Unified Command (UC), and the various branches of the EOC, including Community Support and Economic Recovery, Joint Information Center (JIC), and Public Health.

Action: None.

The following individuals gave updates:

- Bryan Wheeler, Public Health Director - PPT presentation (can be found under Supporting Documents on the meeting webpage) – vaccines, outreach to community to sign up
- Supervisor Corless requested correspondence received from MLH/Judith Jimenez from last week be addressed at next meeting, 1/19

Public Comment:

- Monica Prella
- No Name
- Ron Day

B. COVID-19 Prevention Plan Policy

Departments: Risk Management

(Jay Sloane, Risk Manager) - Presentation by Risk Manager regarding Cal/OSHA's new regulations and the corresponding policy to address these requirements.

Action: None.

Jay Sloane, Risk Manager:

- Presented item

Public Comment:

- Fred Stump

Break: 10:48am

Reconvened: 11:01 am

C. Mountain View Fire Update and Review of Emergency Declarations

(Stacey Simon, County Counsel, Robert C. Lawton, CAO, Justin Nalder, EOC Director) - Review of continuing need for Board of Supervisor's November 17, 2020, Declaration of Local Emergency of and Mono County Health Officer's November 19, 2020, Declaration of Local Health Emergency for the Mountain View Fire.

Action: Find that there is a need to continue the local state of emergency declared by the Board on November 17, 2020 and a need to continue the local health emergency declared by the Public Health Officer on November 19, 2020 (and subsequently ratified by the Board) as a result of the Mountain View Fire.

Peters motion; Duggan seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-18

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Introduced item

Justin Nalder, EOC Director:

- Phase 1 has been completed – everything deemed hazardous has been either removed from site or marked for pick up by future cleanup crews
- Moving into Phase 2 (general clean up phase) – anticipate beginning 2/2 and completion by 5/1

Supervisor Peters:

- Reminder that the next community meeting is in two weeks

D. Emergency Guardrail Replacement - Justification for Continued Emergency

Departments: Public Works - Roads

(Kevin Julian, Road Operations Superintendent) - Update on the Emergency Guardrail replacement project on Eastside Lane and North River Lane and finding of continued emergency.

Action:

1. As established by Public Contract Code Chapter 2.5, "Emergency Contracting Procedures," review the emergency action taken on Jan 5, 2021 and make a finding, based on substantial evidence set forth in this staff report and at the meeting, that the emergency continues to exist as to Eastside Lane and North River Lane, and that continuation of action to replace the damaged guardrail on both roads is necessary to respond to the emergency. [4/5th Vote Required.]
2. Delegate to the Mono County Road Operations Superintendent the authority to continue to procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for the emergency guardrail replacement on Eastside Lane and North River Lane, without giving notice for bids to let contracts, including executing any agreements or contracts for the construction or repair of the damaged/destroyed guardrails. [4/5th Vote Required.]

Peters motion; Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-19

Kevin Julian, Road Operations Superintendent:

- Presented item

E. State Housing (REAP and LEAP) Grant Applications

Departments: Community Development

(Bentley Regehr, Planning Analyst) - Resolutions authorizing application for and receipt of Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) and Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant funds for County housing programs.

Action:

1. Adopt Resolution R21-09 authorizing application for and receipt of REAP funds and making the required findings.
2. Adopt Resolution R21-10 authorizing application for and receipt of LEAP funds and making the required findings.

Gardner motion; Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R21-09, R21-10

Bentley Regehr, Planning Analyst:

- Presented item

Wendy Sugimura, Community Development Director:

- Addressed funding timelines

F. Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program (SREMP) Resolution

Departments: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments

(Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Administrative Services Contractor) - On October 16, 2020, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) adopted a resolution creating and describing a program of work to be known as the "ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program" (SREMP). The SREMP Resolution authorizes the ESCOG JPA to undertake actions to support regional sustainable recreation projects, such as writing and accepting grants for region-wide projects impacting regional sustainable recreation projects, or projects addressing ecosystem management, such as fire preparedness. The SREMP further authorizes the ESCOG JPA to retain contractors and hire staff; make recommendations about project feasibility, and enter into long term agreements.

Action: Approve proposed Resolution 21-11, Authorizing the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments to Commence a Program of Work to be Known as the "ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program."

Gardner motion; Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R21-11

Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Administrative Services Contractor:

- Presented item

Gordon Martin, Inyo National Forest District Ranger of the Mammoth and Mono Lake Ranger Districts:

- On behalf of Inyo National Forest, supports and welcomes this initiative

John Wentworth, Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember:

- Addressed sustainable recreation portion of resolution
- Reviewed pending grants that can be pursued

Janet Hatfield, Plumas Corporation:

- Addressed ecosystem management portion of resolution

Public Comment:

- Rick Kattelman

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

Moved to Item 10.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session: 12:30 PM

Reconvened: 1:41 PM

Nothing to report out of Closed Session.

A. Closed Session - Public Employee Evaluation

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

B. Closed Session - Exposure to Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.

C. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION. Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Name of case: County of Mono, et al. v. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, et al. (Alameda Superior Court Case No.: RG18923377).

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Corless:

- RCRC--interviews with CEO candidates, planning for events this week
- CSAC/Bill Chiat Institute planning discussion on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion program for counties

- Through NACo, participated in a Federal Highways Administration advisory panel on a "Planning and Data-Sharing Partnerships Between Governments and Public Land Management Agencies Research Study" that will be developed this year
- Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System quarterly meeting: strategic planning is focus for upcoming months
- State Forest Management Task Force Meeting: the task force released a long-awaited action plan (available here: <https://fmtf.fire.ca.gov/media/cjwfpckz/californiawildfireandforestresilienceactionplan.pdf>), good news that Gov. Newsom's budget proposal includes \$1 billion for these types of projects. Read RCRC's "rural rundown" of state budget here: https://www.rcrcnet.org/sites/default/files/useruploads/Documents/Resources/RCRCAnalysis_2021_22_ProposedBudget_FINAL.pdf

Supervisor Duggan:

- 01/6/21 – Mono County Fish & Wildlife Commission
 - I attended the meeting of MCFW Commission where they conducted installation of officers and discussed the areas of focus for the upcoming year.
 - There was much discussion of the changes to California Fish & Wildlife Regulations and how they will affect Eastern Sierra waters. Staff is taking the initiative to coordinate with Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Bishop Chamber of Commerce on educational messaging to residents and visitors.
- 01/6/21 Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board Meeting
 - I participated in the MLT Board meeting as current Treasurer of the Board. Discussions focus on local business assistance and economic sustainability. July- Nov revenues met or slightly exceeded revised budgets, but due to Covid-19 restrictions that forces business to close last December with no projected reopening date, forecasted TOT and TBID revenues will be greatly reduced.
 - Air Service from Mammoth Lakes Airport for United Airlines has been cancelled for the season and Advanced Air has been suspended until March.
 - Social media presence is minimal, and all marketing messaging is focused closure restrictions and responsible recreation. All messaging is coordinated with Visit California and in partnership with Mono County Tourism.
- 01/11/21 – Local Transportation Commission.
 - I participated in the LTC meeting where we welcomed new Commission members Jennifer Burrows, Bill Sauser, and myself. Board Chair and Vice Chair were selected, Supervisor Jennifer Kreitz and Town Councilmember John Wentworth, respectively.
 - There was a resolution of recognition for outgoing Commissioner Sandy Hogan, recognizing her years of service and dedication to the Eastern Sierra. Former Supervisor Fred Stump zoomed in to express his appreciation to Sandy for her contributions.
 - Of note was the report from MC Senior Engineer Chad Senior that outlined the County's road projects for the year. This information is so helpful to our residents.
- I want to thank Public Health Officer D. Boo and Public Health Director Bryan Wheeler for working with me last week through the many questions coming from District 2 regarding vaccinations, especially within the Tri-Valley area. Much like in the North County, the challenges of location and how to service the special needs was quickly addressed, enabling me to help get the word out. Feedback

from the residents has been very appreciative and they are registering right way. Thanks again for responding so quickly.

Supervisor Gardner:

- On Wednesday Jan. 6 I participated in the Eastern Sierra Substance Use Project January meeting. It was very interesting to hear about various treatment and other efforts under way to reduce substance abuse in our region.
- Also, last Wednesday I attended the monthly meeting of the June Lake Citizen's Advisory Committee. Topics discussed included continued concerns about Suddenlink internet service, and the possibility of installing electric charging stations in June Lake.
- On Thursday Jan. 7 I participated in a briefing sponsored by the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center. There was much information provided about avalanche projection, related weather forecasting, and general safety precautions for backcountry recreation in our region.
- Also, on Thursday I met with Lesley Yen, the new Inyo National Forest Supervisor to discuss several issues of concern. I was impressed with how much Lesley knows about the Eastern Sierra based on her prior service here. I believe she will be a great partner with the County.
- On Friday Jan. 8 I participated in the monthly meeting of the Kutzadika Tribal Council. The tribe has several ongoing activities including trying to increase the cultural awareness of their tribal traditions.
- Yesterday with Supervisor Corless I attended the quarterly meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Board. Ridership has been down due to COVID impact, but they expect to operate a full schedule this coming summer, including our runs in the Eastern Sierra. YARTS has some tough issues to face in the future, especially regarding revenue and replacement of its aging fleet.
- Finally, I participated in the monthly meeting of the Mono Basin Fire Safe Council. The Council is working on grant applications for potential activity in this summer and fall.

Supervisor Kreitz:

- I attended the regular Town Council meeting on January 6th. The Council approved a new Master Plan for The Parcel without any changes to the proposed plan. The plan allows for up to 580 units on the site, to be built out in approximately six phases. Concern over the scant parking to unit ratio was of the most concern to the public, neighbors and the three Council members presiding over the matter.
- Thursday, January 7th I watched the first Covid-19 Community Conversation of 2021.
- The regular meeting of the CCRH Board was held on Friday, January 8th. The Board discussed the housing related bills in the state legislature. There was robust discussion around Atkins' SB5 - Housing bond act and the breakdown of the use of the funding. There was consensus that more monies should be earmarked for homeownership. The CCRH Legislative Committee is holding a special meeting later this week to discuss further and will then provide CCRH's recommendations to the Senate President pro Tempore.
- I watched the Governor's budget hearing and am digging through the details. Newsom continues to focus on housing and homelessness as a key priority.
- The Local Transportation Commission met yesterday, January 11th. The commission has three (half) new commissioners. We welcomed Supervisor Rhonda Duggan, Jennifer Burrows from the Town of Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission, and Town Council Mayor Bill Sauser.

We received a compressive update on road projects in both Mammoth Lakes and unincorporated Mono County.

Supervisor Peters:

- Thanked CAO Lawton and EOC Director Nalder for continued high-energy and focus on recovery
- Continue to work on a regular basis with CSAC, navigating how Mono County will come out of Stay at Home order
- 1/5: Attended Northern Mono Chamber of Commerce – major focus on fire recovery and efforts to oversee the distribution of cash donations, talked about upcoming recreational season and their contributions to fish stocking, ATV/UTV Jamboree this summer
- 1/6: Attended Fish and Wildlife Commission, Governor's proposed budget allocated \$41 million in one time spending (\$7 million to respond to human-wildlife conflict incidents and to strengthen education in local communities, \$7 million to modernize fish hatcheries, \$750,000 to modernize the licensing platform)
- 1/6: Attended Economic Recovery Branch meeting
- 1/7: Attended Great Basin Air Quality Control Board, CSAC Broadband Working Group meeting, Antelope Valley RPAC – Insurance Commissioner for State of California gave presentation, discussion about fire insurance and the need for Antelope Valley to have a Fire Safe Council
- 1/11: Attended Local Transportation Commission – acknowledged Sandy Hogan and her great contribution to the LTC and community, Forest Management Taskforce meeting, Mountainview Fire Community Workshop, met new Assistant CAO

Moved to Item 9.

ADJOURNED AT 1:41 PM

ATTEST

**JENNIFER KREITZ
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
SENIOR DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**